

Inspection Report

Subject: Knox County Erickson Farms
(Altona) Reconnaissance Report

To: DWPC/FOS & RU

From: Star M. Fowler DWPC-FOS, Peoria Region

Date: May 2, 2012

On May 2, 2012 Eric Ackerman and I observed Erickson Farms from Knox Road 2900 N on our way home from visiting another livestock operation near Altona. By inspection it was noted that this facility was most likely a medium to large CAFO. We did not go onsite and no one was contacted during this reconnaissance inspection. Weather conditions were cloudy to rainy and sunny with the temperature near 65° F. A plan view, drawing of the site, and digital photographs of the area are attached to this report. This facility will be thoroughly inspected at a later date.

Location:

Erickson Farms is located approximately 4 miles northwest of Altona, see Figure 1. The legal description is NE ¼, Section 11, T13N-R2E (Ontario Township) in Knox County.


Observations:

The facility is located near the intersection of Knox Highway 3 and Knox Road 2900 N. The facility is well camouflaged by thick vegetation that appears to be a Vegetative Environmental Buffer (VEB) made of hybrid willow trees and a few newly planted rows of pine trees. This VEB can be seen in the plan view, Figure 2, and surrounds the facility completely. The roofs of the two total confinement buildings have also been colored green so that they blend in with the vegetative buffer, see Photograph #1.

This site appears to be composed of two large total confinement buildings. There is a well head that was observed near Knox Road 2900 N on the north side of the facility. Two LP tanks were also observed on the north side of the site.

Southeast of the facility on the west side off of Knox Highway 3 was a tile discharge location. This location is believed to be where the facility's perimeter tiles would discharge to. This discharge location was observed with black/dark brown water being discharged from the tile for a few minutes, but then the discharge returned to clear.

This report is submitted for your information.



Star M. Fowler

Att: -Figures 1-2
-Photographs

cc: -Bruce Yurdin, BOW
-Peoria Files

ONTARIO

T.13N.-R.2E.

HENRY COUNTY

Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)

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**Figure 1. Location Map of Erickson Farms
Near Altona in Knox County on May 2, 2012.**



Figure 2. Plan View From Google Earth of Erickson Farms near Altona in Knox County on May 2, 2012.

Erickson Farms
Knox County
May 2, 2012
(IEPA Star M. Fowler)



Photograph #1. View of Erickson Farms from Knox Highway 3, view is northwest.



Photograph #2. Sign for the facility at Knox Road 2900 N.

Erickson Farms
Knox County
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Photograph #3. View of facility from Knox Road 2900 N, view is south.



Photograph #4. View of facility from Knox Road 2900 N, view is southwest.

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Photograph #5. View of facility from Knox Road 2900 N, view is southwest.



Photograph #6. View of facility from Knox Road 2900 N, view is south. Well head for facility is shown.

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Photograph #7. Tile discharge location off of Knox Highway 3, southeast of facility. Believed where facility perimeter tiles would discharge. Water has black/dark brown coloration.



Photograph #8. Close up of tile discharge with black/dark brown water discharge.

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Photograph #9. . Close up of tile discharge with black/dark brown water discharge.